

Torrance, California
May 2, 1945

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Wednesday, May 2, 1945, at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Gucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: None.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag!

Being an adjourned meeting, the regular order of business was dispensed with.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Mary Harder, 2605 W. Carson Street, stating that she owns an acre located at the corner of Carson and Elm Streets, known as Lot 3, Block 10, Tract 2761, and that there are trees belonging to the City along the property line on Elm Street. She claims that these trees are injuring her orchard and requests that they be removed or that she be given permission to do so.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request for removal of said trees be referred to the City Engineer and Superintendent of Parks Blake for their recommendation to the Council. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company confirming telephone request to City Engineer Jain for the withdrawal of their petition for change of zone for all of Lots 1, 2, 5 and 6, and all of Lots 7 and 8 lying west of a line 420 ft. west of Crenshaw Blvd. and parallel thereto, situated on the north side of Torrance Blvd. between Crenshaw Blvd. and Madrona Avenue. Matter of record.

A copy of a communication dated April 11, 1945 addressed to the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company from W. H. Stanger, Manager, Water District No. 1, was read requesting termination of a Lease-Agreement, dated December 20, 1937, between said Oil Company and the Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1, and submitting an offer from the City Council in an amount of \$800.00 for the termination of said lease; the Oil Company to grant a title for all pipe and fittings to the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1.

A reply was read from the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company, addressed to Mr. Stanger, accepting the offer of \$800.00 for termination of Lease-Agreement in question, and stating that when so paid as evidence of such termination, Bill of Sale will be executed and transmitted to the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1. A copy of the Bill of Sale was attached and read by the City Clerk.

Some discussion on the matter followed, reference being made to the fact that the Government will acquire for the use of the Navy the substantial portion of the property served by the water lines installed in accordance with agreement dated December 20, 1937.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1 be authorized to pay the sum of \$800.00 to the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company for termination of Lease-Agreement dated December 20, 1937, said Oil Company to transmit to the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1 a Bill of Sale conveying said pipelines and personal property upon payment of the above amount; and authorizing the City Clerk to record said Bill of Sale. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gucci, Gilbert, Powell, Hitchcock, and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: NONE. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At this time Engineer Jain brought up the subject of certain changes to be made in the sewer lines on the property which the Navy had acquired from the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company, and after some discussion, Councilman Powell moved that the City Engineer and City Attorney be instructed to make a survey of the existing sewer lines on the above property and render a report to the Navy Department submitting estimated cost for making changes in the sewer lines. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary of the Torrance Planning Commission with reference to the removal of eucalyptus trees on the southeast side of El Prado. He advised that after a personal inspection by members of the Commission, it was recommended that the proposed plan, submitted by the Park Department, of removing every other tree, in regular order, on the southeast side of El Prado, and replace at once with a suitable tree, agreeable to the majority of the property owners along this side, be adopted.

This plan would include the provision that within a few years, when the new trees have reached a suitable height, the balance of the eucalyptus trees will be permanently removed.

No recommendation was made for those trees on the north-west side of El Prado, as it was considered that the two sides of the street should be treated independently, except for the type of tree which might be eventually planted on the other side, which should correspond with the proposed planting on the southeast side.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the proposed plan of the Park Department for removal of eucalyptus trees on El Prado, approved by the Planning Commission, be adopted, and that Park Superintendent Blake be requested to remove the most dangerous trees first. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that P. W. Scholfeld be employed as a War Emergency employee in the Fire Department at a salary of \$175.00 per month, effective May 16, 1945, to replace John H. Fess, who was transferred from the Park Department as a temporary fireman on September 19, 1942. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of \$88.77, tax included, be made for the purchase of 2 - 32 x 6 8 ply tires and 2 - 32 x 6 tubes for Ford Fire Truck. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Cucci stated he had received a request from the Firebrand Tabernacle for permission to rent the Civic Auditorium on the evening of May 18th for the purpose of holding a religious meeting, and moved that this request be granted if the Auditorium was available on that date. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Cucci stated he had received a request from Mrs. Dodd of the Girl Scouts requesting the use of a privately chartered bus for an ingathering to be held at Griffith Park, Los Angeles, sometime in the near future, and moved that the request of Mrs. Dodd for such bus at a minimum cost of operation be granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the salary of Theodore Stohr, draftsman in the Engineering Department, be adjusted to \$250.00 per month to conform with that of the temporary surveyor now employed in the Engineering Department, to become effective May 1, 1945. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that a portion of El Prado Park fronting on Cravens Avenue be dedicated for the use of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Councilman Cucci objected to this motion, stating that no portion of City property could be dedicated or conveyed to any particular organization.

Mr. Earl Connor, Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, who was in the audience, explained that it was the desire to have a portion of the park dedicated for memorial purposes only where all patriotic groups could participate perhaps once a year and where possibly a tablet might be placed by the patriotic organizations.

Councilman Cucci read excerpts from various magazines on war memorials in different cities.

Mr. Jack Hallanger, Past Commander of the American Legion, who was in the audience, informed the Council that the Veterans of Torrance did not propose to relinquish their plan of erecting a suitable memorial building which can be used by all patriotic organizations.

After some further discussion Councilman Hitchcock withdrew his motion and moved that

RESOLUTION NO. 1721

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE DEDICATING A PORTION
OF EL PRADO PARK FOR THE USE OF PATRI-
OTIC ORGANIZATIONS FOR MEMORIAL PURPOSES.

be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mr. Earl Connor requested that the City Council participate in the public dedication ceremonies of a portion of El Prado Park scheduled for Sunday May 27, 1945.

Councilman Powell stated that he had received complaints from residents living in the vicinity of Carson, Andreo and 218th Streets regarding water running down the gutters from nearby service stations.

Engineer Jain advised that the operators of the service stations did not have the proper sumps or traps to dispose of the surplus water and grease, and the operators of said stations had been notified of the zoning restrictions regarding car washing.

After some further discussion, Councilman Powell moved that the City Engineer be instructed to contact the oil companies and lessees of the service stations and work out some plan satisfactory to everyone concerned whereby this condition can be eliminated, and report to the Council the procedure to be followed. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock announced the arrival of the 10 Ton Roller for the Street Department.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the Mayor be authorized to sign a lease-contract with the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles leasing Lots 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, Block 11, Tract 4070 and Lots 1 to 8 inclusive, Tract 10115, for recreational purposes, for three years at a total rental price of \$20.00, subject to the terms of the contract; lease-contract to be prepared by the Los Angeles Board of Education and approved by the City Attorney of Torrance. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:55 P.M., on motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Cucci, the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:

G. H. B. Tolson
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

W. H. Tolson
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE